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largest in the Magyar stock, so that it is less in the Slavonian, still less in the Romanic, and least of all in the Germanic stock. On the other hand, the occipital brain, or the cerebellum alone, is largest in the German, less in the Romanic, still less in the Slavonian, and least in the Magyar stock. The pons is largest in the Magyar, and smallest in the Romanic stock ; but has in the German a relatively greater weight than in the Slavonian family.

ARCHAIC ANTHROPOLOGY AT THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.*

ANTHROPOLOGY, forming as it does a sort of central science, around which the other sciences cluster, contributes its aid to, and receives contributions in return from, the followers of all of them. No scientific society which really does its work can fail to have laid before it, in aid of its special objects, papers that are really anthropological. Such papers have the more interest, to the professed anthropologist, that they possess a certain local colouring.

These considerations lead us to draw attention to the more recent publications of the parent Society of Archæologists, the Society of Antiquaries. To it Mr. Frere contributed, seventy years ago, his account of the Hoxne find, and it has been of late years a favourite depository for recitals of the discoveries of archaic anthropologists. We recognise it gladly as a society "which really does its work."—During the past few years, its affairs have been managed under very favourable circumstances, and every department, publications, library, and evening meetings, has been kept to a high point of efficiency. This has been due, we believe, to the possession of ample funds, a courteous and accomplished Director, and a zealous and indefatigable Secretary. Mr. Percival and Mr. Watson deserve a great deal of credit, and they will not object to acknowledge that they owe some of the success of their labours to the condition of financial ease, in which the Society has been placed by liberal bequests and benefactions.

The volume of *Archæologia* just completed contains only two papers belonging to the department of archaic anthropology. The first is

* *Archæologia*, vol. xli; *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, New Series, vol. iii.

Mr. W. M. Wylie's communication of a paper by Padre Gerrucci, on recent discoveries of sepulchral remains at Palestrina, the ancient Præneste. This excellent memoir is accompanied by eleven beautiful plates and several woodcuts, and describes the relics of an early Italic civilisation, in which not only iron, but ivory and amber, were plentiful. The other, by Mr. John Evans, on the stone implements discovered in Lough Neagh, Ireland, is illustrated by a coloured plate, representing several of the forms. These finds are interesting from the great number of objects, including simple flakes, amounting to many thousands, and from the variety of material employed, and they have attracted the attention of many observers.

Among papers not so strictly anthropological, may be mentioned another communication from Padre Gerrucci, through Mr. Wylie, on a very remarkable bronze object, conjectured to have been a votive offering to Faunus Lupercus; and a most learned and valuable paper by Dr. J. Barnard Davis, F.R.S., on Runic Calendars and Staffordshire Clogg Almanacks.

It is, however, rather in the brief notices contained in the "proceedings" of the Society, than in the more elaborate memoirs reserved for *Archæologia*, that we find evidence of the anthropological work it is doing. The completion of a volume of these records enables us to look back upon three sessions of the Society. During that period, it has had laid before it the discoveries of flint and stone implements in Kensington, Norfolk, Devon, Essex, Kent, Sussex, Aberdeen, Orkney, Paris, Pressigny, Dordogne, Denmark, Zealand, Nova Scotia, Jubbulpore, Burmah, Sumatra, and Prince Edward Island. It shared the interest which the Anthropological Society took in the remarkable discoveries of pile-dwellings and archaic skulls in the bed of the Thames made by Mr. Layton at Kew, and it entered with zeal into the question raised by Dr. Thurnam, as to the prevalence in long-barrows of a long type of skull. It welcomed also the periodical accounts which were received from its former Director, Mr. Franks, of the accessions, to the British Museum and the Christy collection, of objects of high antiquity. The rock markings at Sancreed, Cornwall, are figured and made the subject of a communication by Mr. Blight, and many other exhibitions of interest in this department were made from time to time.

That the Society did not, at the same time, neglect those questions which lie more closely within the scope of its ordinary work need hardly be said. The question of the Paston Letters, of Cæsar's landing, and of the Chapter-house at Westminster, will serve as types of the matters in which they have bestirred themselves with effect. We

cordially echo the tone of congratulation in which their President, Earl Stanhope, addressed them at a late anniversary, in allusion to the change of Directors :—"There has never yet been wanting a series of active, able, and learned men by whom the succession inherited from their predecessors in the Society is worthily upheld. Long may it continue to be so ! long may it be said of the Society of Antiquaries as of the winged commonwealth in classic times :—

*"At genus immortale manet, multosque per annos
Stat fortuna domûs, et avi numerantur avorum."*

Some few years ago the Society did not take that leading position respecting Archaic Anthropology, which it has since assumed. Until recently it devoted very few of its sittings to the discussion of these subjects, which are now somewhat absurdly denominated "Prehistoric Archæology."

We hail with great satisfaction the leading position which the Society of Antiquaries has recently assumed in reference to all subjects relating to man's early history. This is as it should be ; all parties should unite in supporting such a course of action. It is advisable, that before persons write papers and books, on what they please to call Prehistoric, they should have some knowledge of what is Historic. A study of British, Saxon, and Roman antiquities is a better preparation for writing on Prehistoric Archæology, than the opening some comparatively modern ruin, and describing the same as Prehistoric, or the representing mere naturally fractured stones or flints as works of art.

The Society of Antiquaries has shown itself both able and willing to discuss every topic relating to the great Science of Archæology, and has never given undue prominence to the discussion of the speculations of the modern school of writers on Archaic Anthropology, calling themselves "Prehistoric Archæologists."